



PATENT

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January 20, 2004

Tamra Miller

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 09/652,580

Confirmation No. : 4283

Applicant : Vishnu K. Agarwal

Filed : August 31, 2000

Attorney Docket No.: 501082.16 (98-0616.15)

Art Unit : 2825

Customer No. : 27,076

Examiner : Caridad Everhart

Title : DEVICE AND METHOD FOR PROTECTING AGAINST OXIDATION OF A CONDUCTIVE LAYER IN SAID DEVICE

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97 through 1.98, applicant wishes to make known to the Patent and Trademark Office the references set forth on the attached form PTO-1449 (copies of the cited references, as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, are enclosed). Although the aforesaid references are made known to the Patent and Trademark Office in compliance with applicant's duty to disclose all information he is aware of which is believed relevant to the examination of the above-identified application, applicant believes that his invention is patentable.

I hereby certify that no item set forth on the attached form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge, after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37

C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Please acknowledge receipt of this Information Disclosure Statement and kindly make the cited references of record in the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP



Steven H. Arterberry  
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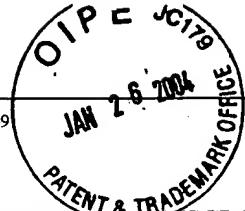
SHA:tlm

Enclosures:

- Postcard
- Form PTO-1449
- Cited References (3)

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FORM PTO-1449  
(REV.7-80)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.  
501082.16 (98-0616.15)APPLICATION NO.  
09/652,580

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT(S)  
Vishnu K. AgarwalFILING DATE  
August 31, 2000GROUP ART UNIT  
2825

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,622,888	04/22/97	Sekine et al.	438	398	
	AB	5,700,710	12/23/97	Zenke	437	60	
	AC	6,077,742	06/20/00	Chen et al.	438	255	
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	AK							
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							

## OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AP	
	AQ	
	AR	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not criteria is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant(s).